



**Resource Report**  
Waukesha County  
Department of Parks & Land Use  
1320 Pewaukee Road, Rm 260  
Waukesha, WI 53188

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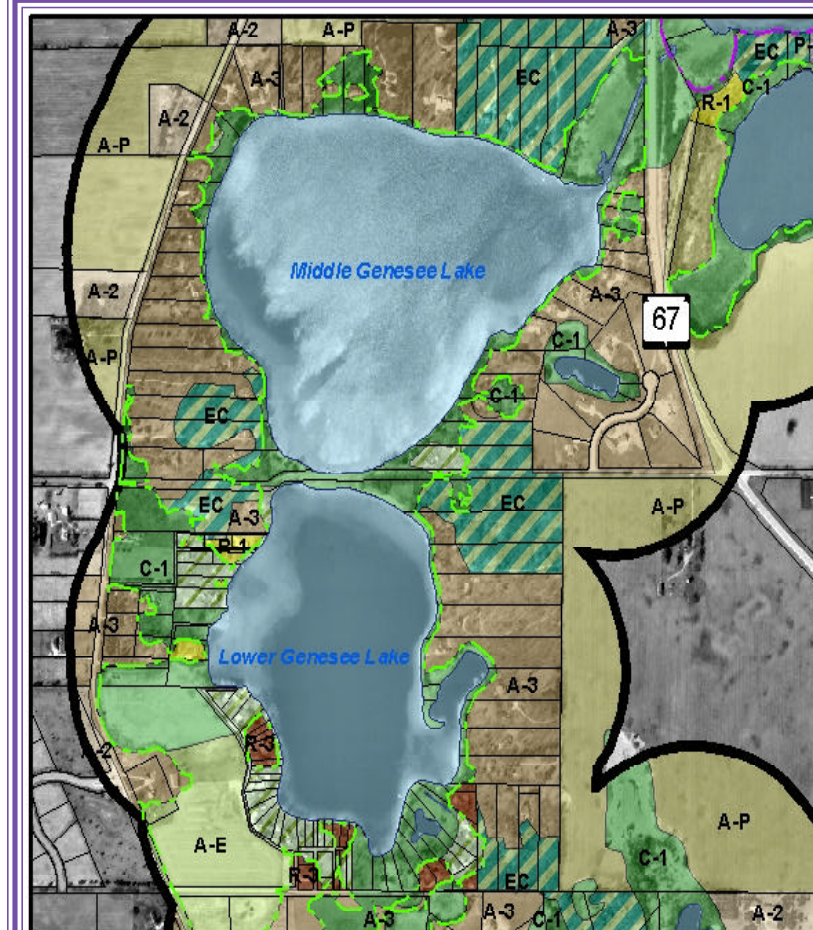
# Resource Report

The Newsletter for Waukesha County's Department of Parks and Land Use

## New and Improved Shoreland Zoning Maps Coming Soon

By: Hans Dumke  
Land Information System Analyst

The Planning and Zoning Division is in the process of developing new and improved zoning maps for the Waukesha County Shoreland and Floodland Protection Ordinance. The Waukesha County Shoreland and Floodland Protection Ordinance is a zoning ordinance, administered by the Planning and Zoning Division, in effect in all unincorporated areas of Waukesha County that are within 1,000 ft. of a lake or pond, within 300 ft. of a river or navigable stream, or within the 100-year floodplain. In addition, cities and villages must apply the provisions of the Waukesha County Shoreland and Floodland Protection Ordinance to any former Shoreland and Floodland areas that were incorporated, or annexed into incorporated areas, after May, 1982, unless they have adopted a zoning ordinance that is at least as restrictive as the Waukesha County Shoreland and Floodland Protection Ordinance. The Waukesha County Shoreland and Floodland Protection Ordinance Zoning Maps (Shoreland Zoning Maps) are currently mapped on a series of year 1985 aerial photographs, at a scale of one inch equals four hundred feet. This requires, for most towns, nine separate maps, each covering four square miles. The current Shoreland Zoning Maps were drawn with pen and ink on mylar originals, which are now in poor condition and difficult

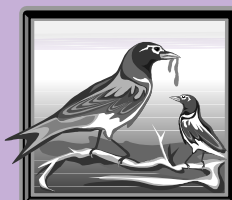


*New and improved zoning maps for the Waukesha County Shoreland and Floodland Protection Ordinance.*

to maintain. In addition, the base mapping information is out-of-date. In an effort to improve the quality of the Shoreland Zoning Maps, the Planning and Zoning Division has begun working to produce new Shoreland Zoning Maps, taking advantage of more accurate data and using the advanced mapping capabilities of the County's Geographic Information System. The Town of Summit was chosen as the pilot area for this conversion process because of its variety of water features and because the Town of Summit recently adopted a new Town Zoning Map.

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*Volunteers receive training on how to test water for dissolved oxygen*

the amount of dissolved oxygen present. Oxygen in the water is necessary to support all animal life within the stream. Using a turbidity tube, monitors track how clear or cloudy the water is. Temperature is another important piece of data collected by monitors. Using many measurements, volunteers can calculate the velocity of water as well as the quantity of water moving in a stream (flow). But most fun of all is collecting the aquatic macro-invertebrates (bugs) to calculate a biotic index. This index can indicate the quality of a stream or river. The water quality data assists the County and municipalities analyze the impact of land use decisions.

Sound interesting? The next training for new volunteers will be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Gertrude Sherman Building on the UW-Waukesha field station site in Waterville. Call Jayne Jenks at 896-8305 to receive registration information. ★

**Zoning Maps continued from pg 1**

The new Shoreland Zoning Map for the Town of Summit was produced by first delineating those areas that had been annexed to the surrounding incorporated municipalities (the City of Oconomowoc, the Village of Oconomowoc Lake, and the Village of Dousman) since May, 1982. Then water features were analyzed to determine where the Shoreland jurisdiction should be. New areas of Shoreland jurisdiction were added where there have been recent navigability determinations, then the 100-year floodplains were mapped, using the best floodplain elevation data available in conjunction with the County's digital terrain model. Conservancy District boundaries were then revised, based on wetland data from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Southeastern Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), and field delineations. Lands designated as Upland Primary Environmental Corridor in the Waukesha County Development Plan were placed in the Environmental Corridor District. Finally, areas outside the Conservancy and Environmental Corridor Districts were mapped to be consistent with the newly adopted Town of Summit Zoning Map.

The resulting digital zoning feature was color-coded, based on zoning categories, and overlaid on the year 2000 aerial photographs to create the new Shoreland Zoning Map for the Town of Summit. The new Shoreland Zoning Map depicts the entire township on one map, at a scale of one inch

# Volunteer Water Monitors Gather Valuable Data

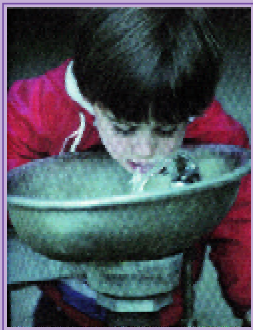
Through the Rock River Coalition, Waukesha County has been promoting, training and equipping teams of volunteers to gather valuable data about our local rivers and streams. Volunteers either choose or are assigned a stream site to monitor. Last year a total of 13 sites were monitored by 11 teams.

What do volunteer water monitors do? Our volunteer monitors give a commitment to visit their site at least once a month from April to November. On site, monitors test the water for

equals one thousand feet. The new Shoreland Zoning Map for the Town of Summit includes up-to-date property and civil division boundaries, making it easier to determine what parcels fall within the County's jurisdiction and how they are zoned. Once completed, the new Shoreland Zoning Maps will be able to be efficiently updated and easily distributed and the digital zoning data will be available for use in other applications.

In addition to the revised Shoreland Zoning Map for the Town of Summit, Shoreland Zoning Maps for certain areas in the Towns of Eagle and Mukwonago, which were affected by a new floodplain study along the Mukwonago River, have also been converted to the new format. In the future, the on-going map conversion process will be assisted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Map Modernization project, which will generate new and revised 100-year floodplain boundaries for the entire county. Waukesha County is fortunate to have been selected as one of the first counties in Wisconsin to be funded for this project.

Copies of the new and improved Shoreland Zoning Maps, which are currently working their way through the approval process, are available for viewing or purchase in the office of the Planning & Zoning Division. ★



# Waukesha County Parks Continue Water Quality Testing

**By: Ginny Clement  
Parks Program Coordinator**

Waukesha County is continuing its Water Quality Procedures to ensure our customers the best swim experience; making safety our first priority. The County has tested water quality since 1970, before there were any state guidelines for testing.

Water quality testing is done as a precaution to warn customers when bacteria levels are high. Beach water may contain microorganisms that you cannot see. A group of these organisms is fecal coliform bacteria. This bacteria is found in feces of animals, including humans. Most fecal coliforms are harmless and do not cause illness. A more specific test for the presence of harmful bacteria is E. coli. E. coli is the abbreviated name for Escherichia coli. The name E. coli encompasses a wide range of bacteria, some which help us and some of which hurts us. About 0.1% of the total bacteria within an adult's intestines is represented by E. coli. The presence of E. coli and other bacteria within our intestines is necessary for us to develop and operate properly. E. coli we acquire from our surroundings can sometimes be harmful to us. The presence of E. coli in swimming areas means that other disease-causing microorganisms may be present as well.

Micro organisms found in polluted water can cause flu-like systems, such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, and fever. Other germs can cause ear infections, eye infections, and skin rashes. Due to the Waukesha County's water sampling and beach closing procedures, exposure to potential causes of illness is reduced.

Testing for water quality is done weekly at all Waukesha County Beaches and twice at Fox Brook and Menomonee Parks. Water is also tested after a heavy rainfall, due to the runoff. Waukesha County beaches will close and appropriate signage will be posted when at least one of the samples has an E. coli count greater than 1000. Additional samples will be taken immediately and the beach will reopen only when two consecutive days have counts below 1000.

This year, the beaches will post advisory signs to inform customers if both samples have E. coli counts over 235 or one sample over a two-day period has an E. coli count over 235. Additional samples will be taken immediately and the beach advisory will remain in place until two consecutive days have counts below 235.

Waukesha County's Procedure for collecting water samples are as follows:

- Water samples are taken by lifeguards on Sunday during peak use (@ 3:00 p.m.) in sterile bottles provided by the Waukesha County Environmental Health Division. Fox Brook and Menomonee Parks also take an additional sample on Tuesday during peak use (@3:00 p.m.)

**Continued**



# We Do Make A Difference

**By: Mary S. Nimm, Project Assistant  
Recycling & Solid Waste**

**In 2003, the Waukesha Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) processed 24,093 tons of recyclables.**

**This translates to:**

- ♻️ **180,216 – Trees Saved in 2003**
- ♻️ **26,609 Tons – Air Emissions Reduced**
- ♻️ **99.1 Tons – Water Pollutants Reduced**
- ♻️ **Enough energy to fuel 2,548 households in one year!**

**Recycling not only reduces the trash we place in the landfills, it help's save our resources and reduces the pollutants we add to our environment.**

- Two samples at each beach location are taken from designated points.

- On Monday, samples are taken to the Parks Program Specialist at the County Administration Building by each Park Foreman and then to the lab at the Waukesha County Environmental Health Division no later than 10:00 a.m. Fox Brook and Menomonee Parks also transport the second weekly samples into the office on Wednesday mornings before 10:00 a.m.



- Samples are also taken within a minimum of 12 hours and a maximum of 24 hours AFTER a heavy rainfall (determined by ½ inch of rain received in rain gauge at park).

A complete list of testing procedures and the weekly results will be posted on-line at [www.waukeshacountyparks.com](http://www.waukeshacountyparks.com) and at each beach house.

So, find those swim suits and beach towels! We'll be waiting for you on June 5th! With our water quality procedure, the only thing you will have to worry about is if you packed your sun screen. See you the 5th. ★





## County Program Supports "Green & Healthy Schools"

**By: Meribeth Sullivan, Recycling Specialist**

Under a new cooperative intergovernmental initiative, Waukesha County schools are being offered funding and technical assistance through the Division of Land Resources to become certified "**Wisconsin Green & Healthy Schools**." The state program is a voluntary certification process involving students, staff, parents, and the community. It is designed to help schools become environmentally friendly, cost-efficient, and healthy institutions while incorporating state academic standards and service-learning opportunities. To learn more about the program, visit:

[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/greenschools/](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/greenschools/).

County staff will assist schools in completing five program areas, including: waste and recycling, water conservation, school site and grounds, mercury reduction, and community involvement. Schools partnering with the county will be able to complete the state criteria for certification in those five areas while reducing waste, saving money, and conserving resources.

Any Waukesha County public or private K-12 school is eligible. For more information, visit:

[www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling/](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling/) and click on "County Green Schools". County Recycling Specialist Meribeth Sullivan served on the state Green Schools committee. ★

## Give Your Well a Spring Check-Up

**By: Paul Tellier**  
Groundwater Program Coordinator



**Look at the well cap.** Is it sealed properly? Tug on the cap to make sure it is tight to the well casing. Mice and other critters love to make their way into wells through inadequate well seals. If you have a typical overlapping well cap, now would be a good time to have a vermin-proof cap (looks like a turtle shell) installed.

**Are your pump wires sealed properly?** If you see exposed wires where they enter the well cap, this is where earwigs and other insects can gain entry to your well. Any exposed wires should be placed in a watertight conduit and sealed or threaded into the well cap. Sealing the wires with duct tape is not the answer. Call your well professional to have the work done right.

**Test your well water.** The Waukesha County Environmental Health Division recommends you test your private well water annually. Get your kit today.



- Order by phone for \$22 using Visa/Master Card by calling (262) 896-8300
- Mail a check for \$22 payable to **Waukesha County** and mail to:

**Environmental Health Division**  
1320 Pewaukee Rd, Room 260  
Waukesha, WI 53188

- Pick up a kit for \$20, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the address above.

**It's your family's health.... what could be more important!**

## New Faces

*The Planning and Zoning Division has a new Land Use Specialist, Sheri Mount. Sheri joined the staff in February, as a replacement for Michelle Staff, who left to take a position with Jefferson County. Sheri graduated in May, 1998, from UW-Stevens Point with a Bachelor of Science degree in Watershed Management and Land Use Planning. She has worked as an Environmental Scientist with Bonestroo & Associates, a Project Ecologist with Cedarburg Science, and as a Water Management Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. She is a State and Federally certified wetland delineator and has had ex-*



*tensive training in best management practices, erosion control, and water quality modeling. Sheri enjoys bird watching, biking, reading, and spending time with her pets.*

*Courtney Marschalek joined the Recycling and Solid Waste staff in October as a Project Assistant and Recycling Educator. Courtney graduated in 2000 from UW-Madison with a degree in Secondary Education – Earth and Space Science. Since graduation she has been working part time for the Waukesha School District as an Environmental Educator. Courtney lives in Hartland with her husband, cat and pet chickens.*

## Humane Officer Program Evolution

**By: James Stadler, Jill Posanski and Denise Oettinger**

The Waukesha County Humane Program has gone through many changes over the years. Their job is to address problems involving animal cruelty, abuse and neglect in the County, in addition to the County's Rabies Control and West Nile Virus programs.

The new Humane Officer Program took some time to develop. In June 2000, a Humane Animal Study Group was formed. Its purpose was to discuss the changing state laws regarding animals and to develop a plan to steer the county's animal program. Directors of local humane societies, County Board members, wildlife rehabilitators, county humane animal specialists, the Waukesha County Environmental Health staff, law enforcement officers, a local veterinarian, a municipal clerk/treasurer, and the state Humane Officer all served on this group. The group recommended adopting Chapter 173 of the Wisconsin Statutes into the county code, appointing a staff of non-law enforcement county humane officers sufficient to provide round-the-clock program coverage.

In 2002 and 2003, the County's Land Use, Parks and Environment (LUPE) Committee discussed and supported the study group's recommendations including the creation of two full-time humane officer positions. The County Board approved the Humane Officer Ordinance in 2003.

In March 2004, the County Board unanimously approved the appointment of James Stadler, Jill Posanski, and Denise Oettinger as County Humane Officers. They each bring different assets to the overall program. James' background in computers and electronics has enhanced the recordkeeping and efficiency of the office. He also is quite knowledgeable about the newly emerging issue of exotic animals and their care. Jill was a veterinary technician for thirteen years before joining the County and has a bachelor's degree in resource management. Since Waukesha County has the largest horse population in Wisconsin, Denise's extensive skills and experience working with horses as well as her training in equine cruelty investigations will be very useful.

The Humane Officer staff looks forward to serving the citizens of Waukesha County for many years to come. Visit our new website at [www.waukeshacounty.gov/humane](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/humane) to learn more about our programs and access valuable information.

## EH Division Receives Grant For Algae Study Of Lakes With Public Beaches

**By: Mike Radomski**  
Environmental Health Supervisor

During the summer of 2003, the Department of Natural Resources conducted a survey of lakes in Wisconsin to look for a particular species of algae with the scientific name **Cylindrospermopsis**. Eight lakes in Southeastern Wisconsin were sampled and three of those were in Waukesha County. Pewaukee Lake was the only lake in Waukesha County where *Cylindrospermopsis* was found.

*Cylindrospermopsis* is a blue-green algae which has been spreading north from subtropical regions. It thrives in high-nutrient, warmer water lakes. When

*Cylindrospermopsis* is present in high numbers, it can cause ear, eye and skin irritation in bathers. The levels found in Pewaukee Lake prompted Village of Pewaukee officials to close their beach until algae counts reached a safe level.



***Cylindrospermopsis* is a blue-green algae which has been spreading north.**

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Bureau of Environmental Health is providing a grant to the Environmental Health Division to conduct a survey of Waukesha County lakes for the presence of *Cylindrospermopsis*. The Division has identified county lakes that have public beaches. During mid August 2004, we will begin to collect water samples from these lakes. The Division laboratory will analyze the samples for the presence of *Cylindrospermopsis*.

While there is no known method to safely and effectively rid a lake of *Cylindrospermopsis*, it's important to give recreational users information about the levels of algae present so that they can make informed decisions regarding potential health risks. This survey will provide the needed information for Waukesha County residents. ★



SPRING



Spring is in the air

and it is time to think about heading outside. Don't forget about the Waukesha County Park System and their many outdoor activities. It's time to dust off your clubs and hit the golf courses – opening Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget you can reserve your tee time on-line! If you are not a golfer and you have been waiting for the water sports, you can head out on the lakes as the County boat launches open April 1<sup>st</sup>. Is sleeping under the stars more up your alley? Well, head to one of the five County Parks that offer camping. Remember, individual campsites are on a first come, first serve basis, no reservations needed. See our web site for more information. [www.waukeshacountyparks.com](http://www.waukeshacountyparks.com)

April is Earth Week and the County Parks are making it extra special with our Earth Week Free-For-All. To celebrate Earth Week, the Waukesha County Park System is waiving the entrance fees from April 18th through April 24th. We encourage everyone to get out and enjoy the great parks, as well as these free special events. For more information and directions to the parks, please log on to [www.waukeshacountyparks.com](http://www.waukeshacountyparks.com). See the special events below.

Waukesha County Parks' Earth Week Free-For-All

April 18th - Sunday  
Canoe the Fox River - Fox River Park, Waukesha  
1:00 PM

Experience the sights, sounds, and smells of the marsh, river, and wetlands in spring on a naturalist guided canoe outing led by Retzer Nature Center staff and guest naturalists. Reservations required, please call 262-896-8007. *Must bring your own canoe, paddles, and life preservers (PFD).*

April 19th - Monday  
Trails and Tails Dog Walk - Nashotah Park  
6:00 PM

Bring your four-legged friend for a walk along the many trails of Nashotah Park. A 6:00 pm presentation at Shelter 2, given by Harmony Pet Care, will explain the importance of exercising your dog and of socialization. Leash required. 'Doggy Goodie Bags' for participants - while supplies last.

April 20th - Tuesday  
Health Walk - Fox River Park, Waukesha  
6:00 PM

Learn the importance of aerobic exercise, no matter what level. Warm-up session at first parking lot to the left, starting at 6:00 pm and handouts will be provided by Cardio Rage (Certified Aerobic Instructor).

April 21st - Wednesday  
Nature Sprouts - Retzer Nature Center, Waukesha  
10:00 - 11:00 AM & 1:00 - 2:00 PM

**Nature Sprouts "Inside the Earth!"** This program is for 4 to 6 year olds and an adult. Join us for this special, complimentary Nature Sprouts, in which we will explore the hidden depths of the earth. We will learn what it would be like to travel deep inside the planet, and we will make tasty edible treats based on

the layers of the earth's interior. We will end the program with an outdoor rock hunt, and each child will get a special rock to take home. Please call 262-896-8007 to make a reservation.

Trails and Tails Dog Walk - Minooka Park, Waukesha  
6:00 PM

Bring your four-legged friend for a walk along the many trails of Minooka Park. A 6:00 pm presentation at Shelter 5, given by Harmony Pet Care, will explain the importance of exercising your dog and of socialization. Leash required. 'Doggy Goodie Bags' for participants - while supplies last.

"Earth Day, Every Day - Birds of Prey" - Retzer Nature Center  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Join Wildlife Rehabilitator **Barb Harvey** for her program "Earth Day, Everyday - Birds of Prey", featuring live hawks and/or owls. Barb is an expert in the care and healing of injured birds of prey. Her goal is to release them, healthy and whole, back into the wild. She uses special hawks and owls, which cannot be released, to share the wonders of these marvelous birds. Please call 262-896-8007 to make a reservation.

April 22nd - Thursday  
Preschool Nature Discovery - Retzer Nature Center, Waukesha

**10:00 - 11:00 AM & 1:00 - 2:00 PM**  
This hike is for 4 to 6 year olds and an adult. Please call 292-896-8007 to make a reservation.

Health Walk - Fox Brook Park, Brookfield  
6:00 PM

Learn the importance of aerobic exercise, no matter what level. Warm-up session at lodge, starting at 6:00 pm and handouts will be provided by Cardio Rage (Certified Aerobic Instructor).

Continued on page 5

Land Acquisitions Still Top Goal

The Waukesha County Park System has recently added the following parcels:

- Fox River Parkway, in the Town of Vernon**
- Benjamin
  - Radtke
  - Hintz
- Pewaukee River Parkway, in the City of Pewaukee**
- Kingsway

**Spring Lake Sedge Meadow and Fen, in the Town of Mukwonago**

- Smart

**Town of Ottawa**

- Barsamian

These parcels add a total of approximately 440 acres to the Waukesha County Park System, part of the continual effort to acquire land as identified in the Park and Open Space Plan.

Grants Help With Land Acquisition

In 2003, Waukesha County received a total of \$614,631.87 of grant monies through the Wisconsin DNR Stewardship grant program. These grants are awarded to organizations that acquire land or easements for conservation purposes, and restoration of wildlife habitat

New Cart Path for Wanaki Golf Course

One of the capital projects of the Waukesha County Park System is the Wanaki Golf Course Cart Path System. The low terrain and proximity to the Fox River produces wet conditions for golfers and golf cart traffic. Currently golf cart usage is not allowed on the course when the conditions are too wet. The construction of an asphalt golf cart path system will offer the option of riding, when it was not possible before.

Earth Week Events Continued From Pg 4

Discover the birds returning to the diverse habitats of Brown's Fen, one of Retzer's finest nature areas.

**Twilight Hike - Muskego Park, Muskego**  
**6:30 PM - Craft / 7:30 PM - Hike / 8:30 PM - Campfire**  
Meet at Shelter 4, to "make-and-take" a craft, followed by a quick presentation on the flowers and critters of a woodland spring evening. As the sun sinks, we will enter Muskego's Forest Primeval, for an encounter with tree frogs, toads, bats, salamanders, owls, coyotes, and other creatures of the gathering dark. After night falls, we will return to the shelter area for a campfire, songs and stories, and refreshments.

**April 24th - Saturday**  
**Bike The Bugline - Menomonee Park, Menomonee Falls - All Day**

Get your bike ready for the season with a tune-up from Emery's Bicycle & Fitness by Shelters 1 & 2. They will be on-hand from 9 am to 11 am to fill your tires, check your brakes, tighten any loose parts, and get you set to hit the Bugline Recreational Trail.



Retzer Nature Center Earth Week Events

**Saturday - April 24th**  
**5:00 AM - 9:00 PM**

**5:00 AM - 12:30 PM Jack Young Memorial Earth Watch**

Experience the beauty and wonder of nature by volunteering for the 2004 Earth Watch. You'll observe the often unnoticed activities of the wildlife of Retzer

**Noon - 5:00 PM Family Earth Day Activities**

Adopt -A-Tree, Worm Compost Kit, Dye your own white T-shirt or hat with Native Plants. (Painter's caps available for purchase). Face painting, orienteering, and family adventure hike.

**1:00 PM - 6:00 PM Delicious Food Available**

**2:00 PM - 2:45 PM Slide Show**

Join Retzer Naturalist **Larry Kascht** for his slide program, entitled "Wildflowers", featuring the spring blooms of Waukesha County.

**3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Concert "The Mighty Lumberhorn"**

**5:00 PM - 7:15 PM Campfire Songs and S'mores**

**7:15 PM - 9:00 PM Magical Mystery Tour**

Guided Twilight Hike into Brown's Fen Nature Area, featuring frogs and peepers, woodcocks, coyotes, stars, and constellations. The Fen is a place of mystery. We will have our own Treasure Hunt!

Enjoy the early spring mornings and the return of our feathered friends, with Retzer Nature Center's Morning Bird Hikes. They are held at Retzer every Friday morning in May (7, 14, 21, 28) from 7 am to 8:30 am. Explore the habitat, welcome back the spring migrants, and check on the year-round residents.



Once spring has sprung, you know summer is just around the corner. Time to think about sun, swimming, and the Waukesha County Park beaches. **Beaches open June 5<sup>th</sup>** and the hours are 11 am - 7 pm, Monday thru Friday and 10 am - 7 pm, Saturday & Sunday.

Swimming lesson sign-up begins May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Session I is from June 21<sup>st</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup> at Muskego and Naga-Waukee Parks, Session II is from July 12<sup>th</sup> to July 23<sup>rd</sup> at Fox Brook and Mukwonago Parks, and Session III is from July 26<sup>th</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup> at Menomonee and Minooka Parks.

For more information and a list of current events, please log on to [www.waukeshacountyparks.com](http://www.waukeshacountyparks.com)